

SPECIES REPORT

The records are for the year 1979 and for convenience are divided into two sections, Ethiopian and Malagasy region birds and oceanics, and Palaearctic species.

Each species is followed by a code letter which, it is hoped, will make the reason for the inclusion of each record clear.

- S: SCARCE species for which all records are required and, if satisfactory, are published.
- R: species of special interest which we do not regard as scarce but for which we REQUEST all records. Records in this category may sometimes be published in summarized form.
- E: records showing an EXTENSION of range, or from areas where the species is scarce.
- N: records published for their NUMERICAL interest - either especially large numbers or accurate counts.
- D: records of migrants where the DATES given are of interest.
- M: records of MISCELLANEOUS interest.

ETHIOPIAN AND MALAGASY REGION BIRDS AND OCEANICS

PODICIPEDIDAE: Grebes

Podiceps nigricollis Black-necked Grebe R: 1 Nairobi NP, 9 Feb and 1 Dec (RDM), 40+ Lake Solai, 8 Jly (LS), c.50 Lake Bogoria, 29-30 Jly (FPJ), 1 Lake Naivasha, 23 Sep (DJP), 100+ Lake Bogoria, late Oct - early Nov (JC, JDG).

FREGATIDAE: Frigatebirds

Fregata sp. S: single frigatebirds reported from Ras Iwetine near Mombasa on 5 Mar (HAB, PLB) and from the Watamu area on 8 Nov (HAB, PLB) and 17 Dec (KAC).

ARDEIDAE: Herons, bitterns and egrets

Ixobrychus minutus payesii Little Bittern R: 1 Lake Jipe, 30 May (YM-C), 2 Smart's Swamp, Limuru, 29 Jly (BSM), immature male ringed Ngulia Safari Lodge, 19 Nov (GCB, DJP).

Ixobrychus sturmi Dwarf Bittern R: singles at Ngulia Lodge, 7 Jan, 23-24 Nov and 2 on 12 Dec (GCB, DJP), 1 between Aruba and Galana river, Tsavo East, 20-21 Jan (JM), 1 Bamburi, near Mombasa, 3 May (HAB, PLB), 1 Malindi 31 Aug (PLB, DJP), 1 30 km west of Mariakani, 20 Oct (JDG), 1 near Usavya, north end of Rukwa Valley, Tanzania, 4 Dec (SJT).

Ardeola idae Madagascar Squacco Heron R: singles Bamburi area, 11 Jun and 8 Aug (HAB, PLB), 1 Thika oxidation ponds, 30 Jun and 7 there 21 Jly (BSM), 1 beside Rufiji River, Selous Game Reserve, 6 Aug (DAT), 1 Malindi area, 31 Aug (PLB, DJP), 2 there on 22 Sep and another single on 18 Oct (HAB, PLB), 17 Mwea Rice Scheme, 1 Sep (JDG) and 25 there on 9 Sep (JDG, DJP), 1 Amboseli NP, 20 Oct (RDM).

Egretta ardesiaca Black Heron R: 17 Nzega Dam, Tabora Region, Tanzania during Feb (RKW), c. 10 Chale Is., 1 Apr (PLB), 4 Mida Creek, 16 Apr (HAB, PLB), 6 near Garsen, 6 Aug (FPJ), a few Lake Jipe, 22 Jun although resident at this locality (DAT), 1 Allia Bay, Lake Turkana, 21 Dec (JC).

Egretta gularis Reef Heron S: 1 dark phase Mida Creek, 14 Jan and 16 Apr (PLB, HAB), 1 white phase Lake Baringo throughout the year (TS).

CICONIIDAE: Storks

Anastomus lamelligerus Open-billed Stork: notable records away from the Lake Victoria basin are: E: flocks of 70 and 20 over Mida Creek, 5 May (HAB, PLB, DJP), 100+ Lake Bogoria, 30 Jly (FPJ), flocks of up to 50 north of Dar es Salaam, Nov-Dec (SJT), 1 Nairobi NP, Nov-Dec (RDM, DAT, JDG).

N: 6000-7000 Lake Katavi, Katavi Plain GR, western Tanzania, 2-3 Dec (SJT).

Ciconia abdimii Abdim's Stork D: latest date: 14 Mar, Malakisi (NBM).

First arrivals: 13 Nov, Kisumu (DAT), 16 Nov, Mara GR (DAT) and 23 Nov, Lake Baringo (TS), while in southern Tanzania flocks of 200+ near Mbeya by late Nov (RS) and mid Dec (SJT).

Ciconia episcopus Woolly-necked Stork E: notable records away from Tsavo and the coast: 2 Eldoret/Mau Summit, 9 Jan (NBM), 2 Serena Lodge, mara GR, 12 Apr (ADL), 1 Nairobi NP, 12 Aug (RDM), 2-3 Katavi Plain GR, Tanzania, 2 Dec (SJT).

PHENICOPTERIDAE: Flamingos

Phoenicopterus ruber Greater Flamingo E: 2 Dar es Salaam, mid Nov (KMH).

ANATIDAE: Ducks and geese

Dendrocygna bicolor Fulvous Whistling Duck R: c. 25 Mida Creek, on open water, 4 Feb and c. 100 at Sabaki River mouth (=Sabaki), 10 Nov (PLB), a few Kisumu waterfront, 15-16 Jun (DAT), a few Lake Jipe, 22 Jun (DAT), c. 100 Lake Baringo, 28 Jly (FPJ) and smaller numbers there 7-8 Nov (DAT), a few Lake Naivasha, 14 Nov and 2 Dec (DAT).

Nettapus auritus African Pygmy Goose R: present in small numbers throughout the year at Lake Jipe (DAT), Bamburi, near Mombasa (HAB, PLB) and at Kazima Dam, Tabora, Tanzania (RKW). 2 Malindi, 31 Aug (PLB, DJP), 2 Amboseli NP, 16 Dec (WK).

Oxyura maccoa Maccoa Duck R: present in small numbers throughout the year in the Limuru area (BSM, DAT).

ACCIPITRIDAE: Birds of Prey

Circus fasciolatus Southern Banded Snake Eagle E: record away from Sokoke Forest: 1 calling at Mtwapa Creek, 29 Mar (HAB, PLB).

Buteo rufipennis Grasshopper Buzzard R: 1 north of Garsen, 7 Jan (HAB, PLB), 13 near Buchuma, Tsavo East, 26 Jan (HAB, PLB), 1 20 km south of Voi, 15 Feb (BSM), 1 Meru NP, 5 Nov (DAT), 2 Tsavo Gate, 24 Nov (DJP), 1 Ngulia Lodge, 27 Nov (DJP), 2 between Iringa and Dodoma, Tanzania (RS).

Buteo tachardus Mountain Buzzard E: noteworthy Tanzania records: recorded over forests on tea estates at Mufindi (Iringa highlands), 17 Nov and 23-31 Dec (SJT), a pair over forest at Sumbawanga, southwest Tanzania, 27 Nov (SJT).

Aviceda cuculoides Cuckoo Hawk R: numerous records from coastal areas 14 May - 22 Sep (HAB, PLB, DJP), resident in small numbers in forest areas around Nairobi, notably Karen, Langata and Karura forests (DKR, DAT, DJP).

Chelictinia riocourii Swallow-tailed Kite R: small numbers present throughout the year in the rift valley between Longonot and Suswa (DAT), 1 Lake Baringo, 26 Aug and four sightings of single birds there during Oct (TS).

Macheiramphus alcinus Bat Hawk R: 1 seen regularly Lake Baringo, early Feb, and 1 on 3 Nov (TS), 1 Likoni, Mombasa, 13 Mar (HAB, PLB), 1 Mazumbai, West Usambaras, 13 Jly (SNS), a pair at Utete, 27-28 Jly (KMH), 2 Shimba Hills, 22 Oct (DJP, JDG).

FALCONIDAE: Falcons

Falco alopex Fox Kestrel R: 1 along Magadi Road near base of escarpment, 2 Dec (DAT, JDG).

Falco fasciinucha Taita Falcon S: pair Lake Chala, near Taveta, 2 Jun (JDG), 1 mobbing an African Marsh Owl *Asio capensis* near Mwatate, Taita, 10 Jun (PLB, RAMM).

PHASIANIDAE: Quails, francolins

Ptilopachus petrosus Stone Partridge R: fairly common near Kitich, Matthews Range, 12-16 Apr (DAT).

TURNICIDAE: Button Quails

Turnix sylvatica Button Quail D, M: 1 Emali, 26 Mar (DJP), 1 Njoro, 8 Sep (BSM), 1 on road after rain at Embakasi, 2 Dec (DAT, JDG), singles ringed at Ngulia Lodge, 17 and 18 Nov (GCB, GN, PLB et al.) and sightings there on 27 and 29 Nov and 12 Dec (DJP).

RALLIDAE: Rails and crakes

Crex egregia African Crake M: singles caught and ringed at night at Ngulia Lodge, 17 and 18 Nov (GCB, GN, PLB et al.).

Gallinula angulata Lesser Moorhen E: 1 Smart's Swamp, Limuru, 11 Mar (BSM), 7 Bamburi, Mombasa, 12 May and 1 there on 28 Oct (HAB, PLB).

Porphyrio alleni Allen's Gallinule R: 1 Hillcrest Dam, Langata, 30 Jan (RDM), present in numbers as usual, for much of the year at Bamburi (HAB, PLB), present throughout the year at Kazima Dam, Tabora, Tanzania (RKW).

Porzana pusilla Lesser Spotted Crake R: a pair in swamp near Dodoma, Tanzania, 21 May, and with at least 1 juvenile on 25 May (DKR).

Sarothrura rufa Red-chested Pygmy Crake R: recorded from Buffalo Springs in Aug (RDM, PBT) and Sao Hill, Iringa highlands in Dec (SNS).

JACANIDAE: Jacanas

Microparra capensis Lesser Jacana R: Kenya highlands: 2 between Nakuru and Nyahururu, 12 Jan and 1 Apr (DJP), several at Ziwa, near Moiben, 27 Jan and several at Kipkabus, 28 Jan (DJP), 1 Lake Naivasha, 12-13 Jly (FPJ).

ROSTRATULIDAE: Painted Snipes

Rostratula benghalensis Painted Snipe R: 4 Lake Nakuru, 13 Jun (DAT), 2 Lake Bogoria, 14 Jly (RDM), 4 Mwea Rice Scheme, 9 Sep (DJP, JDG), 2 Athi River, early Nov (DJP, RDM), 1 Mara GR, 15 Nov (DAT).

CHARADRIIDAE: Plovers

Charadrius forbesii Forbes' Plover S, E: full details of 1 seen in a stream bed between Iringa and Dodoma, Tanzania, 4 Dec (RS) - a considerable eastwards extension, previously known from a few records from the west of the country (and two records from Uganda).

Vanellus lugubris Senegal Plover N: 100+ at roadside pool north of Garsen, 7 Jan (HAB, PLB).

Vanellus melanopterus Black-winged Plover E: 3 Katavi Plain GR, southwest Tanzania, 2 Dec, were presumably wanders from a highland area (SJT).

Vanellus senegallus Wattled Plover E: Tanzania records: 4 at two sites on the Ufipa Plateau, 11 Aug (SJT), a few pairs in the Sumbawanga area, Oct-Nov (SJT, RS).

DROMADIDAE: Crab Plover

Dromas ardeola Crab Plover N: counts on the Kenya coast at Mida Creek gave 250+ during Jan and Feb, 99 on 5 May, 70 on 11 Aug (FPJ) and 140 on 11 Nov (HAB, PLB); the only other coastal records were of 2 at Ras Iwetine on 6 Nov (HAB, PLB). On the Tanzanian coast small numbers were at Kunduchi, Aug-Dec, with a maximum of 70 on 17 Dec (SJT).

GLAREOLIDAE: Coursers and pratincoles

Glareola ocularis Madagascar Pratincole N: Sabaki counts: c. 100 on 15 Apr (PLB) and c. 500 in late June (DAT, FPJ) but with numbers dropping to 4 on 26 Aug and 5 on 22 Sep (PLB). Other coastal records were of 6 at Ngomeni on 19 Apr, 15 moving south at Kilifi ferry on 3 Sep and 60-100 moving south at Shimo-la-Tewa, 15-16 Sep (PLB).

LARIDAE: Gulls and terns

Larus hemprichii Sooty Gull N: maximum count on the Kenya coast was c. 600 at Ras Iwetine on 10 Feb (HAB, PLB).

Anous stolidus Common Noddy R: 1 seen from land, flying outside the reef, off Watamu, 18 Apr (HAB, PLB), a few 'probables' off Watamu, 18-21 Apr (DJP), 3 off Kilifi with other terns on 26 Dec (DAT).

Anous tenuirostris Lesser Noddy S: wings and head of a dead bird at Kisite Is., off Shimoni, 1 Jan (HAB, PLB).

Sterna albifrons Little Tern N: the largest coastal counts were: Malindi Fish Market, 300 on 24 Feb and 2000 on 10 Mar (PLB, DJP); Sabaki, 2000 on 10 Nov (PLB); Chale Is., 40 on 1 Apr (PLB). No counts available from Lake Turkana.

Sterna anaethetus Bridled Tern R: 5 off Tiwi Creek, south of Mombasa, 21 Aug (RDM), 3 off Kisite Is., 21 Oct (PLB, DJP, JDG), 1 dead at Kisite Is., 28 Oct (ARLS), 1 off Kilifi, 26 Dec (DAT).

Sterna bengalensis Lesser Crested Tern N: coastal counts were: Ras Iwetine, 120 on 5 Feb and 60 on 20 Feb (HAB, PLB); Malindi Fish Market, 70 on 24 Feb (HAB, PLB); Sabaki, maximum 400 on 24 Feb (PLB).

Sterna bergii Crested Tern N: coastal counts were: Malindi Fish Market, 4 on 24 Feb and 40 on 10 Mar (PLB, DJP); Sabaki, 6 on 18 Oct (HAB, PLB). A pale immature seen at sea off Kisite Is. on 21 Oct was probably referable to the southern race *thalassina*, hitherto unrecorded from Kenya waters (PLB, DJP, JDG).

Sterna dougallii Roseate Tern N, M: (from Kenya coast): 30 at Chale Is., 1 Apr (PLB), 300 at Kikambala, 11 Aug (HAB, PLB) and, at times, 500-1000 at Kilifi, 26 Aug - 2 Sep (DJP). Counts at Malindi and Sabaki were very low, though hundreds (sometimes thousands) of terns often seen beyond the reef are probably mainly of this species (PLB). Dead birds (including downy young) collected from Kisite Is. on 28 Oct showed conclusively that breeding took place again on the island, probably in August (PLB).

Sterna fuscata Sooty Tern R: an immature off Kilifi with other terns, 26 Dec (DAT).

Sterna repressa White-cheeked Tern R: 2 Malindi Fish Market, 10 Mar (PLB, DJP), 25 Chale Is., 1 Apr (PLB), 1 Kilifi, 3 Sep (DJP). Small numbers seen occasionally throughout the year at Sabaki and Ras Iwetine (PLB).

RHYNCHOPIDAE: Skimmers

Rynchops flavirostris African Skimmer R: small flocks at Lake Baringo throughout January, otherwise seen daily from late October to the end of the year (TS), 30 north of Loiyengalani, 22 Apr (RDM), 5 Lake Naivasha, 29 May (BSM), 10 Sabaki, 16 Feb (RDM), 5 there on 15 Apr (HAB, PLB), 34 there on 17 Apr (PLB, DJP) and 4 there on 27 Jun (FPJ); 7 ringed at Mida Creek, 1 Sep (PLB, DJP); 1 Nairobi NP, 22 Sep (RDM); 2 Lake Magadi, 2 Dec (DAT, JDG).

PSITTACIDAE: Parrots, lovebirds

Poicephalus robustus Brown-necked Parrot R: Tanzania records: 3 near Mwanhala, Nzega District in Feb and 7 at Nanga, Igunga District, in May (RKW); a few

in the northern sector of the Selous GR, 6-10 Aug (DAT) and 2 in Mikumi NP, 27 Dec (KMH).

CUCULIDAE: Cuckoos and coucals

Cercococcyx montanus Barred Long-tailed Cuckoo R: calling daily in the Usambara forests, both East and West, between Oct - Mar and at Mufindi, Iringa highlands between Aug - Sep (SNS). Also recorded in the West Kilomero Forest Reserve, Uzungwe Mts, in Dec (RS).

Clamator glandarius Great Spotted Cuckoo R: the possible presence of Palaearctic birds Oct - Mar makes it difficult to determine and recognize Ethiopian region breeders, though birds seen in Meru NP in June and in the Selous GR in Aug, as well as those at Baringo between May and Aug are presumed to have bred in Africa.

Clamator jacobinus Black and White Cuckoo R: common at Baringo Jan - end of May with stragglers remaining through to Aug (TS); common in eastern Kenya (Tsavo and Meru NPs) Jan - Feb and again Nov - Dec (DJP, DAT, GCB). Recorded in Tabora District during May and Sep (RKW).

Clamator levaillantii Levaillant's Cuckoo R: small melanistic birds recorded from coastal areas of Kenya in Jan, Mar and June are assigned to this species (PLB, DJP, DAT). Reported as very common in southwest Tanzania from Katavi Plain GR to Lake Rukwa, Oct - Dec (SJT).

Cuculus gularis African Cuckoo R: 1 bamburi, 10 May (HAB, PLB), Lake Baringo, June (TS), and an immature ringed at Ngulia, 26 Nov (GCB, DJP, DAT).

TYTONIDAE: Barn Owls

Tyto capensis Cape Grass Owl R: 1 near Naivasha, 15 Jly (RDM).

STRIGIDAE: Owls

Bubo poensis vosseleri Nduk Eagle Owl S: 1 ringed at Ambangulu, West Usambaras, 12 Oct (SNS).

Otus leucotis White-faced Scops Owl R: a pair at Lake Baringo Lodge between Jan and early Jly (TS).

CAPRIMULGIDAE: Nightjars

Caprimulgus clarus Slender-tailed Nightjar R: present throughout the year at Lake Baringo (TS); 6 ringed at Ngulia, 23 Oct - 27 Dec (GCB, DJP).

Caprimulgus donaldsoni Donaldson-Smith's Nightjar R: 42 ringed at Ngulia from 26 Oct - 26 Dec (GCB, DJP).

Caprimulgus fossii Gabon Nightjar R: heard at Timau, 11 Mar (DJP), common in Tabora Region, Aug - Sep (RKW), 1 ringed at Ngulia, 15 Nov (GCB, GN).

Caprimulgus fraenatus Dusky Nightjar R: not uncommon on the lower slopes of Mt Meru, Arusha District (JB); 13 ringed at Ngulia, 26 Nov - 27 Dec (GCB, DJP).

Caprimulgus inornatus Plain Nightjar R: 26 ringed at Ngulia between 14 Nov and 13 Dec (GCB, DJP, GN).

Caprimulgus nubicus Nubian Nightjar R: 5 ringed at Ngulia between 15 Nov and 27 Dec (GCB, DJP, GN).

APODIDAE: Swifts and spintails

Apus berliozi Forbes-Watson's Swift S: 10 over the Soko Forest, 17 Feb (RDM, ADL) and a flock of 30 there on 30 Dec (RDM).

Apus melba Alpine Swift E: 3 Mt Marsabit, 8 Jly (FPJ).

COLIIDAE: Mousebirds

Urocolius indicus Red-faced Mousebird E: seen in Iringa, late Nov complements previous sight records from Ruaha NP (RS; see Britton 1980).

ALCEDINIDAE: Kingfishers

Ceryle rudis Pied Kingfisher N: about 100 roosting on fallen tree at Baomo Lodge, Tana River, 17 Feb (PLB).

Halcyon leucocephala Chestnut-bellied Kingfisher D: 2 adults ringed at Ngulia, 26 Nov (GCB, DJP, GN, DAT).

Halcyon senegalensis Woodland Kingfisher E: singles at Lake Baringo, 12 Jun and in early Aug (TS).

MEROPIIDAE: Bee-eaters

Merops nubicus Carmine Bee-eater D, N, E: seen in the Malindi area on the unusual date of 25 Jun (DAT); large numbers roosting Kilifi Creek from 17 Sep onwards, after an absence of at least two years (HAB, PLB); 1 Dar es Salaam area, 12 Nov (SJT); 1 Samburu GR, 29 Dec (DJP).

CORACIIDAE: Rollers

Eurystomus glaucurus Broad-billed Roller E: a single bird at Shimo-la-Tewa on 28 Apr (the first record for the Mombasa area) may perhaps have been a migrant from Madagascar (HAB, PLB).

BUCEROTIDAE: Hornbills

Bucorvus abyssinicus Abyssinian Ground Hornbill E: a pair resident in the Baringo area during Jun and Sep (TS).

CAPITONIDAE: Barbets

Buccanodon olivaceum Green Barbet M: 1 at Shume, West Usambaras at 1800 m on 8 Aug was at the presumed altitudinal limit of the species (SNS).

Buccanodon whytii Whyte's Barbet E: one at Sao Hill, 80 km southwest of Iringa, in late Nov, was presumably of the race *terminatum*, otherwise only known from the type locality '50 km south of Iringa' (see Britton 1980) (RS).

PICIDAE: Woodpeckers

Campethera nubica Nubian Woodpecker E: recorded from dry acacia scrub on the Buhoro Flats, northeast of Mbeya, southern Tanzania, 29 Nov (RS). This would appear to be a southwesterly extension of known range.

PITTIDAE: Pittas

Pitta angolensis African Pitta R: 1 attracted to lights at Bumbuli Hospital, West Usambaras in May (M. & S. Thompson, pers. comm. to SNS); 1 Jašini Forest, south Kenya coast, 23 Jun (DAT).

ALAUDIDAE: Larks

Chersomanes albobasata Spike-heeled Lark S: 1 seen in Amboseli NP, 21 Oct, was the first record from Kenya (RDM, ADL, see *Scopus* 3: 103). A pair seen on the Asogati Plain (type locality of the race *beesleyi*), north of Arusha, 28 Oct (JSSB).

Eremopterix signata Chestnut-headed Sparrow Lark E: 20+, Tsavo River Gate, Tsavo West, 21 Jun (DAT).

HIRUNDINIDAE: Swallows and martins

Hirundo atrocaerulea Blue Swallow R: common and breeding in the Mufindi area, Iringa highlands, Oct - Dec (SJT).

Psalidoprocne pristopectera Black Rough-wing E: 2 Shimba Hills, 29 Apr (HAB, PLB).

ORIOLIDAE: Orioles

Oriolus auratus African Golden Oriole D: extreme dates from the Kenya coast were 10 Apr - 18 Sep (HAB, PLB).

Oriolus chlorocephalus Green-headed Oriole E: the first records for the West Usambaras were provided by sightings at Ambangulu during Aug and Oct (SNS).

CORVIDAE: Crows

Corvus splendens Indian House Crow E: one the Kenya coast, reported from 8 km north of Kilifi Creek, 22 Sep, which is the northernmost record to date apart from localized introductions at Watamu and Malindi (where small numbers continue to survive) (HAB, PLB). KMH reports that it is increasing in the Dar es Salaam area.

SALPORNITHIDAE: Spotted Creeper

Salpornis spilonota Spotted Creeper R: 1 observed in *Brachystegia* woodland near shore of Lake Tanganyika between Kipili and Numanyere, 9 Dec (SJT).

CAMPEPHAGIDAE: Cuckoo Shrikes

Campephaga flava Black Cuckoo Shrike D: extreme dates on the Kenya coast were 15 Apr - 20 Sep and included the first-ever male seen with yellow shoulders at the coast (HAB, PLB).

PYCNONOTIDAE: Bulbuls

Andropadus masukuensis Shelley's Greenbul E: a pair seen in a patch of montane forest above Kericho, 17 Jun, appears to represent an eastward extension (DAT).

TURDIDAE: Thrushes, robins etc.

Cercomela familiaris Red-tailed Chat E: a pair Kongalal Escarpment, 10 Nov (DAT).

Cercomela scotocerca Brown-tailed Rock Chat M: small numbers throughout the year at Baringo (TS).

Cossypha natalensis Red-capped Robin Chat D: extreme dates from the Kenya coast were 12 May - 18 Nov (HAB, PLB).

Modulatrix orostruthus Dappled Mountain Robin S: a total of four netted at Amani, East Usambaras, in Nov; two had been first ringed in 1977, one in 1978 and the fourth had not been ringed previously (SNS).

SYLVIIDAE: Warblers

Chloropeta gracilirostris Papyrus Yellow Warbler E: 2 Kendu Bay, South Nyanza District, appears to be the second recorded Kenya locality (DJP; see Britton 1980).

Cisticola carruthersi Carruthers' Cisticola E: common at Kendu Bay, South Nyanza District, 11 Feb (DJP); the first South Nyanza record (see Britton 1980).

Heliolais erythroptera Red-winged Warbler M: 1 Mowetwe (between Tanga and Dar es Salaam), 17 Jly (JSSB).

Macrosphenus kretschmeri Kretschmer's Longbill N: fairly common at forest edge at Ambangulu, West Usambaras, Oct (SNS).

MUSICAPIDAE: Flycatchers

Batis orientalis Grey-headed Batis R: 2 Merti Road, near Archer's Post, 14 Apr (RDM), 2-3 Meru NP, 7-8 Jun (DAT), 1 Samburu GR, 29 Jly (JDG).

MOTACILLIDAE: Wagtails and pipits

Tmetothylacus tenellus Golden Pipit M: a few in the northern part of the Selous GR (8°S), 6-8 Aug (DAT).

MALACONOTIDAE: Bush Shrikes

Laniarius ruficeps Red-naped Bush Shrike R: small numbers in the area to the east of Nguni on the Thika - Garissa road, 24 Mar (DJP; see *Scopus* 2: 115).

LANIIDAE: Shrikes

Lanius mackinnoni Mackinnon's Shrike E: 1 at Kericho on 13 Feb was at the easternmost extremity of the species' range (DJP).

Lanius somalicus Somali Fiscal M: single records from Lake Baringo, 28 Jan and 14 Feb (TS).

STURNIDAE: Starlings

Cinnyricinclus leucogaster Violet-backed Starling D: present in hundreds at the Kenya coast, 9 Mar - 12 Aug, with occasional birds in Feb and Sept (HAB, PLB); hundreds near Mwatate, south of Taita Hills, 9 Jun (PLB, RAMM).

Cinnyricinclus sharpii Sharpe's Starling E: 1 in a patch of montane forest in the Matthews Range, 14 Apr (DAT) is a new locality record (see Britton 1980).

Speculipastor bicolor Magpie Starling D, E: present throughout the year in the Baringo area (TS); wandering parties of up to 25 in the Maungu area, near Voi, 20-22 Oct (DJP).

Spreo shelleyi Shelley's Starling R: 5+ between the El Barta Plains and South Horr, 18 Apr (RDM).

NECTARINIIDAE: Sunbirds

Anthreptes neglectus Uluguru Violet-backed Sunbird E: fairly common at Ambangulu, West Usambaras, in August (SNS): first record for these mountains.

Anthreptes rubritorques Banded Green Sunbird E: fairly common at Ambangulu, West Usambaras, Aug and Oct (SNS): previously only known from Mazumbai in these mountains (Britton 1980).

Nectarinia habessinica Shining Sunbird R: 1 north of Archer's Post, 18 Mar (DJP), 1 north of Loiyengalani, 21 Apr (RDM), 1 at base of Kongalal Escarpment, 12 Dec (RDM).

Nectarinia oustaleti Angola White-bellied Sunbird S, E: recorded near Mpuu, Ufipa Plateau, southwestern Tanzania, 28 Nov (RS). This is the second record for East Africa although the species is known from Mbala, Zambia, 110 km to the southwest (Benson, Brooke, Dowsett & Irwin 1971) and its occurrence in southwestern Tanzania was predicted by Britton (1980).

Nectarinia reichenowi Golden-winged Sunbird E, D: a wanderer at Olorgesailie, 6 Jun, was unusually low for this species (DAT).

PLOCEIDAE: Weavers etc.

Anomalospiza imberbis Parasitic Weaver R: 25+ Nairobi NP, 9 Dec (JDG).

Euplectes afer Yellow-crowned Bishop R: abundant at Mwea rice scheme during Sep (DJP); common in the Arusha area of northern Tanzania, Jun and Nov (JSSB); common in all wet areas in the Dodoma area, Mar - May (DKR).

Ploceus golandi Clarke's Weaver D: a pair, possibly nesting nearby, Soko Forest, 18 Apr (PLB, DJP); other records from Soko Forest during Aug (PLB, DJP) and on 20 Nov (DAT).

Ploceus olivaceiceps nicolli Usambara Weaver R: occasional records from Mazumbai, West Usambaras, indicate no more than 4-5 pairs in the area (SNS).

Passer castanopterus Somali Sparrow R: 5+ between Lodwar and Ferguson's Gulf, 6 Sep (RDM).

Passer domesticus House Sparrow E: small numbers now established in Mombasa old town, docks and causeway areas (several observers).

ESTRILDIDAE: Waxbills etc.

Pyrenestes minor Lesser Seed-cracker E: 2 seen in sedges at the edge of a lake, Mufindi District, Iringa highlands, 28 Dec (SJT).

FRINGILLIDAE: Buntings, canaries and seed-eaters

Serinus reichardi Stripe-breasted Seed-eater R: 1 netted at Sao Hill, Mufindi District, 16 Nov (SJT).

PALAEARCTIC SPECIES

Ixobrychus minutus Little Bittern R: a male Bamburi, 13 Jan (HAB, PLB); 1 Lake Baringo, 13 Nov (TS); singles caught at night at Ngulia, 24 Nov and 20 Dec (GCB, DJP et al.).

Ciconia ciconia White Stork D, N: JULY RECORDS: 1 on 11th, Marsabit; 2 on 12th Lake Naivasha; 25 on 15th, Mara GR and 2 on 24th, Kitale (FPJ et al.). Large flock of 1600, Tunduma, 11 Dec (SJT).

Ciconia nigra Black Stork R: 6 Nairobi, 14 Jan (RDM); 1 Kahawa, 15 Mar (WKR); 1 Mbeya, southern Tanzania, 15 Mar (DKR). 1-2 Nairobi NP, 12 Oct - 9 Dec (various observers).

The Tanzanian record is the first for that country for several years.

Anas crecca Teal S: 6 Lake Ol Bolossat, 12 Jan, 20 Lake Nakuru, 13 Jan (BSM), 3 Ewaso Nyiro swamp, 20 Jan, 3 Ziwa Dam, near Moi's Bridge, 27 Jan (DJP), 3 Ararai swamp, near Mogotio, 28 Jan (DJP), 7 Thika oxidation ponds, 3 Mar (TK, BSM) and 2 there 31 Mar (BSM). 1 Lake Nakuru, 25 Oct (BSM), 1 Thika ops, 3 Nov and 2, 20 Nov (BSM), 1 Nairobi NP (JDG) and 7+ Lake Ol Bolossat, 27 Dec (PLB, DJP).

The spread of records from October to late March indicates a winter resident rather than an extra-limital status.

Anas penelope Wigeon S: 1 Lake Naivasha, 1 Jan, 60 on 12 Jan, 3 on 25 Jan and 60 on 11 Feb (BSM); 14 Nyakiami, near Nyaharuru Falls, 12 Jan, 4 Ewaso Nyiro swamp, 20 Jan, singles near Eldoret at Ziwa Dam and Lewa Downs Dam, 27 Jan, and 12 Lessos Dam, 28 Jan (DJP).

Anas querquedula Garganey D: 2 Mwea rice scheme, 9 Sep (JDG, DJP).

Aythya fuligula Tufted Duck S: 2 Lake Ol Bolossat, 12 Jan (DJP). 2 Lake Naivasha, 2 Dec (JDG, DAT) and 2 Thika ops, 29 Dec (BSM).

Aquila clanga Greater Spotted Eagle S: an adult watched at very close range at the Lookout Point, Nairobi NP, 11 Dec (BSM). Full details received. The bird was observed alongside a typical Lesser Spotted Eagle *A. pomarina*.

Aquila heliaca Imperial Eagle S: an adult between Baringo and Bogoria, 17 Feb (TS). Full details received.

Aquila nipalensis Steppe Eagle N: c. 65 counted at Mtito Andei, 16 Feb (ADL, RDM) and 30+ at Rongai, 28 Jan (DJP).

Aquila pomarina Lesser Spotted Eagle R: 1 Nairobi NP, 7 Jan (BSM), 1 Nyaharuru Falls, 12 Jan (DJP), 1 Gilgil, 14 Jan (BSM), 16 Elmenteita, 13 Jan, about 20 there, 14 Jan and 1 there on 1 Mar (DJP, BSM, TK), 1 Rongai, 27 Jan and at least 5 there on 28 Jan (DJP), 1 Ziwa Dam, near Moi's Bridge, 28 Jan (DJP), 10 Mtito Andei, 1 Mar (RDM), 1 Njoro/Elburgon, 1 Mar (TK, BSM), 2 Lake Nakuru, 1 Apr (JDG, DJP, SW). Up to at least 4 Langata/Nairobi NP, 23 Oct - 1 Dec (FN, BSM, DJP, RDM), 3+ Lake Nakuru, 4 Dec (PPJ, DEGB) and 1 there 16-17 Dec (RDM, LS), 2 Longonot